

Message Text

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17

ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 PM-04 DODE-00 EB-07 NRC-07

NSAE-00 TRSE-00 ERDA-07 CIAE-00 COME-00 AID-05 SY-05

OMB-01 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 /100 W

----- 065773

R 130603Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7495

UNCLAS CANBERRA 1128

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, AS

SUBJ: LAWS GOVERNING ARMS EXPORTS

REF: STATE 028053

1. EXPORT OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION IS CONTROLLED BY AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, UNDER PROVISIONS OF CUSTOMS (PROHIBITED EXPORTS) REGULATIONS. UNDER THESE REGULATIONS, EXPORT OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION IS PROHIBITED, UNLESS WRITTEN PERMISSION IS GIVEN BY MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS OR HIS DELEGATE. THIS PERMISSION KNOWN AS "RESTRICTED GOODS EXPORT PERMIT". EXPORT CONTROL APPLIES TO COMMERCIAL AND PERSONAL EXPORTS.

2. WHEN APPLYING FOR PERMIT, EXPORTERS MUST STATE ULTIMATE USE OF FIREARMS. PERMIT WOULD NOT BE ISSUED IF END-USE NOT APPROVED BY MINISTER. CUSTOMS OFFICIALS WOULD NOT ELABORATE TO EMBASSY ON THIS POINT AS MATTER CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL. ONCE FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION HAVE LEFT COUNTRY, HOWEVER, AUSTRALIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE NO CONTROL OVER THEIR DISTRIBUTION. EXPORTER CAN BE PROSECUTED IF HE IS FOUND TO HAVE MADE FALSE OR
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ERRONEOUS STATEMENTS IN APPLICATION FOR EXPORT

PERMIT.

3. EFFECTIVENESS THESE REGULATIONS HARD TO EVALUATE AS AUSTRALIA EXPORTS ONLY SMALL NUMBER FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION (LOCAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY VERY SMALL - MOST FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION AVAILABLE IN AUSTRALIA ARE IMPORTED). HOWEVER, OTHER SECTIONS OF CUSTOMS (PROHIBITED EXPORTS) REGULATIONS ARE STRICTLY POLICED (E.G. EXPORTS OF WILDLIFE, DRUGS) AND EMBASSY HAS NO REASON TO DOUBT FIREARMS WOULD RECEIVE SAME ATTENTION.

4. MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS MAY SEEK ADVICE OF MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS IF EXPORT APPEARS TO INVOLVE FOREIGN POLICY CONSIDERATIONS. FINAL DECISION, HOWEVER, IS MADE BY MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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04 MAY 2006

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